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THE POPES OF NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY.

Communicated by MRS. O. A. HEATH, Wichita, Kansas.

These notes of the Popes of Northumberland County are by no means exhaustive. They accumulated in connection with searches made for other records at Heathsville and may prove of some aid or interest to genealogists.

My first mention of the name is in the will of John Cooke, dated Aug. 6, 1652, and recorded March 10, 1653, when he leaves a legacy to "Mr. Nathaniel Pope." However, the Northumberland County line of Popes, seems to begin with James Pope, and his connection with Nathaniel my notes do not show.

An unusual touch of interest is given this "story" of the Popes by the fact that a deed recorded nearly a hundred years after the appearance of the first James Pope, definitely fixes his time and place among the early settlers of the Northern Neck. A brief abstract of this deed recorded June 13, 1749, recites that Christopher Neale and Jane, his wife, late widow of Richard Rogers, and one of the daughters of Peter Presley, Sr., gave a deed to Peter Presley, now the elder of St. Stephen's parish, for 264 acres of land more or less, on Northwest side of Chincahon Creek, part of 1,000 acres by patent granted Richard Russell, Sept. 25, 1657, and by him deserted, was taken by James Pope, who obtained order from Governor and Council for same, dated Oct. 12, 1660, and for a valuable consideration, by the said Pope made over to William Presley and Peter Presley, the father to sd Jane by deed, dated April 24, 1662.

This deed was originally recorded Sept. 21, 1709, but was burned in the disastrous fire of 1710 and so recorded again after this long lapse of time.

As my study of the records of the Pope family has not been sufficient to warrant any authoritative comment, I shall simply give the abstracts in some sort of chronological fashion.

The first record is from a ragged old Order Book and has many words missing.

1662 April 29.—Know all men by these presents that I, James Pope, of the Co. of Northd. for divers good causes and valluable considerations mee thereunto movinge and more especially for the vallue of 24,000 pounds of tobacco and caske and one cow and calf to me already satisfied and paid wherewith I hold myselfe fully satisfied and contented, have bargained and sould and doe by these presents for mee, my heyres, exors., and etc., sell, allyenate, assign, set over and make sale of unto Wm. and Peter Presly of the aforesd County And —— ——— there keyres etc 1000 acres of land situate in the County aforesd ——— —— bounding E: upon a creeke called ——— Mr. Peter Presly's creeke N: upon the ——— Mottron the said Presly and Col Tru——— upon ——— land of Gervace Dodson ——— wood towards Col ——— formerly granted to ——— dated the 25th of Sept. ——— and granted to me ——— at James City the 12th ——— as aforesaid. I, the sd. ——— and set over with all ——— or thereon belonging ——— by heyres etc and ——— Presly and to there ——— warranting the ——— ——— premises and every ——— oblige myselfe my heyres ——— deliver and assigne a pattent for the arofesd land ——— My wife Dorcas shall renounce her Dowry in ——— demand by the said Wm. or Peter Presly. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seale.

In presence of—
Richard Lugge James Pope (Seale).
James Hill.

1662 May 20.—Acknowledge and recorded.

1663, July 17.—Whereas my husband, James Pope, sold to Wm. and Peter Presly 1000 acres of land formerly belonging to Richard Russell lying upon the head of Chingoham Creeke, bounding upon the land of Mottrom, the sd Presly's, Trussell and Dodson as by a deed bearing date the 29th April, 1662, may appeare, I doe by these presents assigne all my right and title of the said land unto the sd Wm. and Peter Presly and to their heirs etc.

forever. In witness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seale.

In presence of
Robert Howson
Thomas his X mark. Lane

her
Dorcas X mark Pope (Seale)

1671 May 16—Know all men by these presents that I, Dorcas Pope, with the consent of my loving husband, James Pope, doe freely and absolutely constitute and appoint my trusted friend Sam. Bailey to be my true and lawful attorney in Northumberland County Court to acknowledge my right and interest of a parcell of land sold by my aforesd husband, James Pope, planter, in the County of Northumberland aforesd, unto John Bounds, carpenter.

1679 Feb. 19—Whereas complaints have been made unto this Court that John Higginson who married the relict of James Pope hath much impayred the estate of the children of the said Pope.

1699 Sept. 21.—Whereas John Pope hath made claime agst the estate of Dorcas Higginson for 1050 pounds of tobacco for himself and 1750 for his sister Dorcas Pope.

1699 Sept. 25.—Thomas Hobson, guardian of Peter Presly, vs John Pope, administrator of Dorcas Higginson.

1704 Jan. 1—John Pope deeded Robert Boyd one hundred and fifty acres of land, situate on the south side of the main branch of Wicocomo river being a patent granted to James Pope, father of said John Pope.

Robert Boyd's will was made Sept. 10, 1710 and proved May 16, 1711. He named Wife Ann, brother-in-law John Pope, son John, son not named, other word show it to have been Robert, god-son, Moses Wood. His wife was doubtless a sister of John Pope, since the latter had deeded him the above land. A reference to this deed appears again when, Feb. 18, 1713, Wm. Heath presented John Pope's deed for land to Robert Boyd.

1747 June 8—There was a settlement between the estates of Robert Boyd and Wm. Taylor dec'd.

A further reference to the original Pope patent is Sept. 3rd, 1708. John Dunaway and Margaret his wife make a deed foi 100 acres of land, said land part of a patent first taken up by Josias Draper, James Pope and James Hill, being at the head of a Branch called Hollybranch near Matchotique Path. Also in the deed made 1713, April 9, by Rodham Neal of St. Stephen's parish to Robert Carter of Lancaster County for 300 acres of land in Wicocomo parish, ——— part of a patent of 700 acres first granted James[1] Pope, Sr. and by sd James[2] Pope, son of sd James made over to Christopher Neale, father of sd Rodham by deed dated Aug. 13, 1691.

John Pope's name appears many times in the Order Books, as witness, juryman, in law suits of his own, and as overseer of the highways.

He made his will Jan. 4, 1722, as follows:

I give and bequeath unto my eldset son Joseph Pope etc.

I give and bequeath unto my second son John Pope—

I leave to my wife Ann Pope the use of the manor plantation, lying between my son's Joseph and John Pope's land during her natural life and after her decease, to my son John Pope and his heirs.

I give and bequeath unto my third son Richard Pope—

I give unto my youngest son Leroy Pope—

I give and bequeath unto Isaac Basie my gray broad cloth coat, vest and breeches.

To Thomas Pittman, a suit of clothes.

My will is that my four sons shall have their estate paid them when they come to the age of eighteen, the residue of my estate unto my dear and loving wife, Ann Pope, and my four sons.

Mr. Thomas Gaskins Jr. and Mr. Thomas Winters to divided said estate.

Witnesses—Isaac Basie, Elizamon Basie, Katherine Basie.

Recorded November 20, 1723.

The fact that one of the sons bore the name of Leroy is a most conclusive evidence that either the father or mother belonged to the Fauntleroy blood. Ann Pope, the widow of John Pope married about 1729 or 30, Thomas Dameron Sr. of Wicomico Parish.

Much circumstantial evidence pointed to this but it was more than fifty years later that positive proof was found of this marriage which will be mentioned in the family chronology as it unfolds from the old Record and Order Books.

1728 Nov. 22—Judgment granted Richard Marsh, guardian of Philip Thompson, agst the estate of John Pope, decd., for the sum of 4500 pounds of tobacco, it being the balance due the said Philip Thompson from the said John Pope as the administrator of Simon Thompson, father of the said Philip.

1743 June 14—Mary Pope (wife of Thomas Pope), deed to George Oldham for 1 fourth part of a water mill left her and her three sisters by her father, Samuel Heath, which formerly belonged to Bartholomew Schreever.

Leroy Pope, youngest son of John Pope in his will dated Jan. 19, 1747, and probated March 9, 1747, names brother John Pope, nephew Leroy Pope, son of brother John, nephew Thomas Pope, son of brother Joseph, brother Richard, cousins (nieces), Sarah Ann Pope and Elizabeth Pope, daughter of brother Joseph, nephew John, son of Joseph, Betty Pope, daughter of brother John, brothers John and Richard, executors.

The will of Joseph Pope was dated Sept. 2, 1766, and probated March 9, 1767. The abstract of this was not made but another record gives the names of the heirs as follows:

1770, Dec. 10—We the subscribers have divided the estate of Joseph Pope and possessed Sarah Pope, the widow, Richard, John, Joseph and Sally Pope and William Oldham, who married Mary, one of the daughters, Fortunatus Davenport, who married Elizabeth another daughter, and possessed Richard Pope with 10 shillings and four pence for the heirs of Thomas Pope deceased, one of the son of Joseph Pope.

Signed Wm. Nutt
Martin Sherman Jr.
John Smither.

On April 9, 1771, Littleton Massey and Mary, his wife, administratrix of Thomas Pope, deceased of Accomac County, gave power of attorney to Lindsey Goote to settle the affairs of the estate.

The will of John Pope Sr., dated Dec. 25, 1775, recorded May 13, 1778, names son, Nicholas, son Leroy, one half my land in Richmond County where he now lives, son William, other half of land in Richmond County, daughters Betty Goodrich, Katy Hinton, Judith Robinson, Winnie Roult and her children. I doe appoint my loving *brother George Dameron* exc. with my three sons, Nicholas, Leroy and William.

Witnesses—Richard and Joseph Pope and Taylor Gill.

His son Nicholas Pope, made his will Jan. 9, 1777, recorded June 9, 1777. He names son John Fleet, my three children Mollie Edwards Pope, John Fleet Pope and William Fleet Pope. Executors—wife, Col. John Fleet, William Martin and Henry Hinton.

John Pope, Jr., made his will Jan. 27, 1784, recorded Feb. 9, 1784. To John Fleet Pope, one half of land in Richmond County, William son of Leroy Pope, remainder of land in Richmond County. To Molly Edwards Pope and Ann Pope, daughters of Leroy Pope, sister Winifred Roult's children, to Betsy Goodrich and William Goodrich, to Lucy Roult, Winifred Sidnor Roult to Nicholas Pope.

Isaac Basie and Richard Pope to be guardians to my brother Nicholas Pope's children. Executors—Richard and Joseph Pope, Isaac Basie and William Nutt.

The will of Richard Pope was dated Jan. 1, 1791, recorded Jan. 14, 1793. Brother Joseph homestead. Nephew Thomas Pope Basie and William Basie. To Opie Davenport, nieces, Sally and Elizabeth Basie.

Mr. Isaac Basie to have management of estate of Mr. William Pope deceased that is now in my hands. Executors—Isaac Basie, and Oppie Davenport.

1794 June 9—Inventory Sarah Pope deceased—

1794 June 9—Isaac Basie was possessed with proportionable part of the estate of George Pope deceased in right of his wife Sally.

As stated before Ann Pope, widow of John Pope, m. Thomas Dameron of Wicomico parish, about 1729 or 30, by whom she had two children, George and Anne Dameron.

Thomas Dameron's will dated Mch. 27, 1750, names wife, Ann, and his children, George and Anne Dameron, both minors.

So far the maiden name of Ann Pope-Dameron has not been definitely determined.

Malachi Burhery or Burborough in his will, dated Jan. 9, 1751, names "my Aunt Ann Dameron," "my cousin George Dameron," "my cousin, Samuel Smith."

There is a record of May 22, 1745, of a settlement between Mr. Richard Smith, guardian to Samuel Smith, orphan of John Smith, decd, and Mr. Winder Kenner, exc., of Mrs. Hannah Smith, decd.

Frequent references in the records show that the Taylors, Burberys, Smiths, Nutts, Heaths, Fieldings, Lees and Jones were closely related.

On Nov. 15, 1757, Ann Dameron was security for Richard Pope, her son. She was security in various trials until about 1764, when she probably died, as her son George assumed her obligations and appears as security, not only for the Popes, but so regularly and frequently for John Heath that it would appear that he might have been a half-brother also.